

# DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

## Department of Health and Hospitals Office of the Secretary Bureau of Health Services Financing

### Professional Services Program—Bilateral Procedures

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing has adopted the following emergency rule in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 46:153 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act and as directed by the 1996-97 General Appropriation Act, which states: "The Secretary shall implement reductions in the Medicaid program as necessary to control expenditures to the level approved in this schedule. The Secretary is hereby directed to utilize various cost containment measures to accomplish these reductions, including but not limited to pre-certification, pre-admission screening, and utilization review, and other measures as allowed by federal law". This emergency rule is adopted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq. and shall be in effect for the maximum period allowed under the Administrative Procedure Act or until adoption of the rule, whichever occurs first.

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing currently provides reimbursement for certain bilateral medical and surgical procedures at a rate of 200 percent of the fee on the Physician's Formulary File. The bureau has now determined that it is necessary to reduce reimbursement to 150 percent of the fee on the Physician's Formulary File for certain bilateral procedures. Therefore, the following emergency rule has been adopted to reduce fees for the bilateral procedures listed in the rule. This action is necessary to avoid a budget deficit in the medical assistance programs. It is anticipated that implementation of this emergency rule will save approximately \$505,962 for state fiscal year 1996-1997.

#### Emergency Rule

Effective for dates of service July 10, 1996 and thereafter, the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing reduces reimbursement for certain bilateral medical and surgical procedures payable under the Professional Services Program. Reimbursement shall be made at 150 percent of the fee on the Physician's Formulary File for the following CPT procedure codes.

30903	31276	49505	69420	31254
49495	49507	69421	31255	49596
49520	69424	31256	49500	49521
69433	31267	49501	49525	69436

Interested persons may submit written comments to: Thomas D. Collins, Bureau of Health Services Financing, Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030. He is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this emergency rule.

Bobby P. Jindal  
Secretary

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